

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 221754

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221754

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. ZIMBABWE: DIVIDED THEY STAND

EMBASSY LUSAKA REPORTS THAT THE ZAMBIAN PRESS HEADLINED THE FAILURE OF THE "FRONT LINE" PRESIDENTS TO UNITE THE BICKERING ZIMBABWEAN FACTIONS. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS:

--ZAPU'S NKOMO REJECTED CALLS FOR UNITY, INSISTING THAT GROUPS OPERATING OUTSIDE ZIMBABWE DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF ZIMBABWEANS.

--BISHOP MUZOREWA OF ANU CALLED FOR UNITY BASED ON THE 1974 AGREEMENT WHICH NAMED HIM LEADER OF AN AMALGAMATED AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

--THIRD FORCE LEADER MUGABE CLAIMED THAT UNITY HAD
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PAGE 02 STATE 221754

BEEN ACHIEVED THROUGH THE 1974 AGREEMENT, BUT "SOME"

(READ NKOMO) FAILED TO HONOR IT.

--FACED WITH THEIR FAILURE TO UNITE THE RIVAL FACTIONS,
THE FIVE PRESIDENTS MAY BE MOVING TOWARD RECOGNIZING
ZANU AND ZAPU AS SEPARATE POLITICAL ENTITIES. (LIMITED
OFFICIAL USE) LUSAKA 2306, 9/7.)

2. DJIBOUTI INDEPENDENCE: SOMALIA TO WAIT AND SEE

WITH ALI AREF'S RESIGNATION FROM THE TFAI PRESIDENCY AND
WITH THE TFAI ON A SLOW BUT SURE COURSE TOWARD INDEPEN-
DENCE, THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT IS RELATIVELY RELAXED ON THE
DJIBOUTI ISSUE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE SOMALIS:

--RETAIN A DEEP SUSPICION OF FRENCH INTENTIONS; AND

--APPEAR AS CONFUSED AS OTHER FOREIGN OBSERVERS ABOUT
INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TERRITORY'S PRINCIPAL
POLITICAL GROUP, THE AFRICAN PEOPLE'S INDEPENDENCE
LEAGUE.

EMBASSY COMMENT: SOMALIA, WHOSE ECONOMY IS REELING FROM
DROUGHT, SEEMS CONTENT TO LET EVENTS IN THE TFAI CONTINUE
THEIR BASICALLY FAVORABLE DRIFT. BUT SHOULD THE DOMESTIC
SITUATION IMPROVE, THE GSDR MIGHT WELL DECIDE THAT POLITICAL
ACTION, INCLUDING VIOLENCE IN DJIBOUTI, IS WITHIN ITS CAPA-
BILITIES AND IN ITS INTEREST. (CONFIDENTIAL) MOGADISCIO
1445, 9/7.)

3. SPAIN: OPPOSITION TAKES A STEP TOWARD AN ALTERNATIVE

AFTER THEIR MUCH PUBLICIZED SUMMIT SEPTEMBER 4, SPANISH
OPPOSITION GROUPS ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE:

--ACCUSING THE GOVERNMENT OF REVERTING TO "REFORMIST
POSITIONS WHICH HAVE ALREADY FAILED;"

--ANNOUNCING THE FORMATION OF A COORDINATING COMMITTEE
TO STUDY AN ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE POLITICAL TRAN-
SITION; AND
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PAGE 03 STATE 221754

--CALLING FOR CONTINUED NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVERN-
MENT.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE PARTICIPANTS VIEW THE SUMMIT AS AN
EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FIRST STEP TOWARD THE ARTICULATION OF
A UNIFIED OPPOSITION PROGRAM FOR POLITICAL CHANGE. THE
RATHER MODERATE COMMUNIQUE, THE GOVERNMENT'S TOLERATION OF

THE SUMMIT, AND SUAREZ' RECENT MEETING WITH POPULAR SOCIAL-
IST LEADER TIERNO GALVAN HAVE AMELIORATED TENSIONS BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LEFTIST OPPOSITION. (LIMITED OFFI-
CIAL USE) MADRID 6814, 9/7.) KISSINGER

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